IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Currently Amended) A first wireless communication device, comprising:

a controller configured to monitor for an acknowledgement (ACK) message transmitted by a second wireless communication device in response to a message transmitted by said first wireless communication device, and

a collision detector that monitors a wireless medium for collisions of said acknowledgement message based on a comparison of an energy level and an energy level threshold, preamble detection, and payload detection.

2. (Previously Presented) The first wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein said collision detector evaluates said energy level and detects a collision based on said energy level and said preamble detection or based on said energy level and said payload detection.

3. (Previously Presented) The first wireless communication device of claim 2, wherein said collision detector includes a payload detector and detects a collision based on said detected payload.

4. (Previously Presented) The first wireless communication device of claim 3, wherein said collision detector includes a preamble detector and detects a collision based on said detected preamble.

5. (Original) The first wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein said collision detector is activated after said first wireless communication device transmits data.

6. (Original) The first wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein said collision detector does not detect a collision if an ACK message or data header is received.

7. (Original) The first wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein said device is implemented in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 Standard.

8. (Original) The first wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein said controller determines if said second wireless communication device correctly received said transmitted message by monitoring said wireless medium.

9. (Original) The first wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein said controller determines that said second wireless communication device did not likely receive said message if a collision is detected.

10. (Original) The first wireless communication device of claim 1, wherein said controller determines that said collision was a cause of not receiving said ACK message.

11-17 (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting a collision in a wireless communication network, said method comprising the steps of:

monitoring said wireless communication network for an acknowledgement message received in response to transmitted data; and

monitoring said wireless communication network to detect a collision of said acknowledgement message based on a comparison of an energy level and an energy level threshold, preamble detection, and payload detection, wherein one or more of said steps are performed by a processor.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said monitoring to detect said collision step further comprises the step of detecting a payload and said collision detection is further based on said detected payload.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said monitoring to detect said collision step further comprises the step of detecting a preamble and said collision detection is further based on said detected preamble.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said monitoring steps are performed after said data is transmitted.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein said monitoring for said acknowledgement message step does not detect a collision if an ACK message or data header is received.

23. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein said method is implemented in accordance with the IEEE 802.11 Standard.